



5 Tips to Preserve Your Wooded Lot
(from Article by J & A Ford Tree Care, Inc. *Guidelines for Tree Preservation*)

- 1) A tree's root system extends 2-3 times beyond the canopy of the tree. However, it is the roots **directly under the canopy**, that is, within the dripline of the tree, that must be preserved.
- 2) **Adding or removing more than three inches of soil** under the canopy compacts the soil and greatly reduces the air and water pores essential to the survival of the tree roots.
- 3) **Driving heavy equipment across the root system** also compacts the soil and causes tree mortality. If this is unavoidable, place 6"-12" of mulch over the root system of the tree.
- 4) Equipment or vehicles should **not be parked under the trees**, nor should building materials be stored under these trees. Harmful chemicals, such as excess paint or cleaners, should also be kept away from the root system.
- 5) **Specimen Trees** should have a barrier, such as a snowfence, placed around the dripline. Before construction starts, these trees should be put in optimal health with fertilization and by pruning away all dead or crossing branches.

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